

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-9, 15, and 17-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 15, and 17 are independent. New claims 19-21 have been added in this reply. These claims incorporate certain limitations of original claims 7-9 and support for these new claims is found at least in original claims 7-9. Claims 1-9 and 15 were cancelled in this reply. Claims 18-21 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent claim 17.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-9, 15, and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the English translation of Japanese Patent Application No. JP-09-174956, issued to Fuji Xerox (“Xerox”). Claims 1-9 and 15 have been cancelled in this reply, rendering the rejection of those claims moot. Claim 18 has been amended to clarify the present invention recited, particularly to reflect proper antecedent basis. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. With respect to claims 17-18, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Embodiments of the present invention are directed to a printer that performs reconstructing of print data from a plurality of previously inputted print jobs in accordance with a subsequently inputted print job. The plurality of previously inputted print jobs are integrated such that the printer is able to perform a single printing operation

for the plurality of previously inputted print jobs (*i.e.*, a first print job data) in accordance with a subsequently inputted print job (*i.e.*, a second print job data). The printing occurs based on an integration of first inputted print job data and second inputted print job data in accordance with the second inputted print job data further sent from the host device. Furthermore, as recited in independent claim 17, *a job type determination unit allows the printer to determine the type of print job data sent from the host computer.*

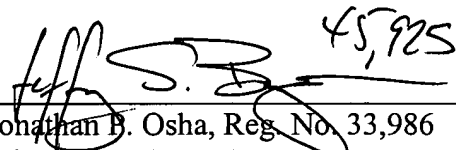
Xerox, in contrast, fails to disclose a job-type determination unit as required by the instant claims. Instead, in Xerox a host computer generates the first print job data and the server generates the second print job data. Accordingly, Xerox cannot perform a normal printing procedure such as that performed by embodiments of the instant invention. Thus, Xerox fails to show or suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 17. For at least this reason independent claim 17 is patentable over Xerox. Dependent claims 18-21 are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04783.014001).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/5/04


Jonathan B. Osha, Reg. No. 33,986
OSHA & MAY L.L.P.
One Houston Center, Suite 2800
1221 McKinney Street
Houston, TX 77010
Telephone: (713) 228-8600
Facsimile: (713) 228-8778